CONCORD SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Concord School Committee Zoom April 28, 2023

Present: Tracey Marano, Chair, CCSC; CSC

Alexa Anderson, Chair, CSC; CCSC Carrie Rankin, Vice Chair, CSC; CCSC

Courtland Booth, CSC; CCSC Cynthia Rainey, CSC, CCSC

Present from Administration: Dr. Laurie Hunter, Superintendent of Schools, CPS & CCRSD

Robert Conry, Asst. Superintendent of Finance & Operations, CPS & CCRSD

### I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Anderson called the meeting to order at 3:31 PM.

Dr. Hunter shared an update on the homeless shelter. She stated that she has been working closely with DESE, who was working with DHCD, on the short-term stays because those families had been staying at the hotel for longer than the 3-5 days originally planned. She stated that DHCD owned the fact that they short term stays were not going as planned and that the system was completely overwhelmed. She stated that DESE is working with the district and DHCD to identify those families that have been at the shelter longer than intended, noting that most were being moved to shelters closer to their home districts. Dr. Hunter stated that the district would be onboarding more families, noting that many may have transportation needs. She stated that DESE has made a commitment to the best of their ability to not place school age children, but have identified a couple of children that may be ready for Kindergarten in the fall. Ms. Rankin asked about reimbursement from the state and Dr. Hunter stated that the district would be receiving a per pupil subsidy for all of the children enrolled, noting that it would be a retroactive reimbursement of \$105/day. Regarding the transportation side, Dr. Hunter stated that this still holds at 100%, but the process of reimbursement is on a 12-18 month lag.

### II. DISCUSSION

- A. Article 19 CMS Landscaping and Fields. Dr. Hunter stated that three bids were received at noon earlier in the day, noting that two are right at about \$85 million (\$2 million under budget). She stated that the award would go to the lowest bidder of the two. She noted that there is one protest outstanding, which they are waiting on the ruling by the Attorney General's office. Mr. Conry noted that the companies need to go through the whole bid package to make sure they are compliant with the bid.
- B. Article 17 CPS Budget. Ms. Anderson stated that there were slight revisions to the budget slides and noted that there are also rebuttal slides as well, given that the Finance Committee would be proposing an amendment. Ms. Anderson stated that the revision was an additional slide added that detailed the cuts that would be considered if the budget fail and the amendment pass. The SC discussed the rebuttal slides and agreed to add the word "operating" before the word "budget" on the first slide. Ms. Rainey and Mr. Booth questioned the slide that referenced giving money back to the town in 2021, stating that this is a practice that has to be done. Mr. Conry stated that this was added to the slides to communicate that the schools have done the right thing and don't keep the money to create too much of a safety net.
- C. Article 18 CPS Capital Projects. Ms. Anderson noted that the ask reduced from \$900K to \$495K. Mr. Booth noted that they are not saving any money, but just reducing the request. Ms. Anderson stated that the reduced request saves taxpayers money.

### III. ACTION ITEMS

A. Article 17 CPS Budget. A motion was made Ms. Marano, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to approve the rebuttal slides for Article 17. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye.

B. Article 19 CMS Landscaping and Fields. A motion was made Mr. Booth, seconded by Ms. Rankin, to not move Article 19 at Town Meeting. The motion passed by roll call: Anderson, aye; Booth, aye; Marano, aye; Rainey, aye; Rankin, aye.

## XII. ADJOURNMENT

The CSC meeting adjourned at 4:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Erin E. Higgins

Approved: 6.6.23

# Abbreviations:

CCHS Concord-Carlisle High School

CCRSD Concord-Carlisle Regional School District

CCSC Concord-Carlisle Regional District School Committee

CCTA Concord-Carlisle Teachers' Association

CEF Concord Education Fund CMS Concord Middle School

CMSBC Concord Middle School Building Committee
COAR Communities Organizing Against Racism
CPC Community Preservation Committee

CPS Concord Public Schools
CSC Concord School Committee
CTA Concord Teachers Association

DEIB Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging

DHCD Department of Housing and Community Development ESSER Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund

FINCOM Finance Committee

MTSS Multi-Tiered System of Supports PD Professional Development

SC School Committee

SEPAC Special Education Parent Advisory Council

YRBS Youth Risk Behavior Survey